

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 01883 141259Z

41

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-11 ACDA-05 OMB-01 CPR-01

OPR-02 A-01 SY-05 /085 W

----- 095663

O R 141220Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3351

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL DOUALA

AMCONSUL KADUNA

AMCONSUL IBADAN

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DEPARTMENT PLEASE REPEAT ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS AND
CAPETOWN IMMEDIATE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGOV, PINS, NI

SUBJECT: OBASANJO NAMED NEW HEAD OF FMG

REF: LAGOS 1882

1. AT 1225 HOURS LOCAL SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL ANNOUNCED
"TRAGIC DEATH" OF FORMER HEAD OF STATE GENERAL MURTALA MUHAMMED.
STATEMENT SAID HE WAS ASSASSINATED YESTERDAY MORNING BY LT. COL.
DIMKA AND SMALL BAND OF DISSIDENT OFFICERS WHO NOW UNDER ARREST.
MUHAMMED FUNERAL IS SCHEDULED FOR TODAY IN KANO. SEVEN
DAYS OF NATIONAL MOURNING HAVE BEEN DECREED; ALL FLAGS TO BE
FLOWN AT HALF MAST.

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 01883 141259Z

2. SUM FURTHER ANNOUNCED THAT LT. GENERAL

O. OBASANJO HAD BEEN UNANIMOUSLY CHOSED BY SMC AS NEW HEAD OF FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT AND COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF NIGERIAN ARMED FORCES. FORMER COMMISSIONER TRANSPORT LT. COL. YAR A'DUA HAS BEEN NAMED NEW CHIEF OF STAFF SUPREME HEADQUARTERS AND PROMOTED TO BRIGADIER.

3. OBASANJO TO MAKE NATIONWIDE BRAODCAST THIS EVENING AT 2100 HOURS LOCAL.

4. RECOMMEND THAT DEPARTMENT CONSIDER SENDING PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE TO NEW HEAD OF STATE. IN VIEW FMG'S REACTION TO "UNSIGNED "PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION OVER ANGOLAN POLICY (AFRICAN HEADS OF STATE SEND PERSONAL EMMISARIES TO DELIVER SIGNED LETTERS) SUGGEST SIGNED ORIGINAL BE DELIVERED TO NIGERIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON AND COMMERCIAL CABLE BE SENT DIRECTLY TO FMG, DODAN BARRACKS, LAGOS, WITH INFO COPY TO EMBASSY.
EASUM

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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